THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The observations and suggestions made by the mid-term review mission of the World Bank are :

(i) uncertainty about adequate provisions in the state budget exists which is likely to affect smooth implementation of the project;

(ii) frequent transfers of the project staff are in contravention of project agreement and effect the pace of project implementation;

(iii) the procurement process is slow;

(iv) free distribution of seedlings under farm forestry component of the project is contrary to the project agreement;

(v) the ban imposed by the State Government on procurement of new vehicles is likely to adversely affect mobility of the Forest Department staff in remote forest areas;

(vi) the progress on inventory and new types of working plans is lagging;

(c) The expenditure incurred by the State Government upto December, 1996 is :

(Rs. in crores)

Indian Financial Year	Budget Estimates	SAR Target	Actual Expenditure
1994-95	23.99	30.65	7.26*
1995-96	22.38	45.07	20.48
1996-97	72.93	61.40	23.26**
Total	119.31	137.12	51.01

* includes retroactive expenditure incurred upto March 31, 1994

** Figures upto December, 1996

(d) According to the Mid-term review the project is expected to be completed on time if the observations and suggestions contained in reply to para b supra of this question are addressed satisfactorily by the State Government.

(e) Periodical review meetings, monitoring and supervision by missions of the World Bank are being undertaken to ensure timely completion of the project activities.

Inquiry into Conduct of Ex. C.M.

2513. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Sikim Government for enquiry into the conduct of an earlier Chief Minister;

(b) whether CBI enquiry has been ordered for the test period between 1984-94;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the CBI had submitted a chargesheet against former Chief Minister, Sikkim, Shri N.B. Bhandari in the Court of Special Judge, Gangtok on 14.9.94. The matter is now sub-judice.

[Translation]

Agriculture Service Centres

2514. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Agriculture Service Centres functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more Centres in the country particularly in the backward areas of Karnataka and Mahrashtra;

(c) if so, the names of the districts where these Centres are proposed to be set up, State-wise; and

(d) the date by which these Centres are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Establishment and Strengthening of Farmers Agro Service Centres", an amount of Rs. 965.74 lakhs was released to the State Governments/UTs for setting up of Farmers' Agro Service Centres. 1146 Farmers' Agro Service Centres were set up during the period from 1983 to 1991.

(b) to (d) The above mentioned Scheme was transferred to the State Sector from April 1992 for implementation.

[English]

Warehouses

2515. DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the number of warehouses owned by the Central Warehousing Corporation and the locations thereof;

(b) the number of the warehouses housed in the rented buildings and the locations thereof;

(c) the amount of rent being paid every year by the Corporation;